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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/650,712	08/29/2000	Rico Mariani	MS1-579US	1048
22801	7590	01/19/2006	EXAMINER	
LEE & HAYES PLLC 421 W RIVERSIDE AVENUE SUITE 500 SPOKANE, WA 99201			CHEN, SHIN HON	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2131	
DATE MAILED: 01/19/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/650,712

Applicant(s)

MARIANI ET AL

Examiner

Shin-Hon Chen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 17-23, 27, 28, 30-32 and 34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 17-23, 27, 28, 30-32, and 34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 July 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-10, 17-23, 27, 28, 30-32, and 34 have been examined.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-10, 17-23, 27, 28, 30-32, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Balasubramaniam et al. U.S. Pat. No. 6499109 (hereinafter Bal) in view of Cox et al. U.S. Pat. No. 6253323 (hereinafter Cox).

4. As per claim 1, Bal discloses a method, comprising: delivering the web page to an electronic device capable of authenticating the web page and executing at least a portion of the web page after the web page is authenticated based on the URL (Bal: column 2 line 43 – column 3 line 19; column 6 lines 20-29: check whether the web site is authorized web site). Bal does not explicitly disclose associating a digital signature with a web page and authenticating the web page based on the digital signature. However, Cox discloses attaching digital signatures to web contents including web pages are well known in the art (Cox: column 5 lines 7-21 and column 5 line 54 – column 6 line 12). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill to use the URL to determine whether digital signature associated with the web page is secure. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's

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invention to combine the teachings of Cox within the system of Bal because associating digital signature to document such as web page provides users with certain confidence that it is safe to execute programs invoked by the web pages they are visiting.

5. As per claim 2, Bal as modified discloses the method as recited in claim 1. Bal as modified further discloses the associating further comprises attaching the digital signature to the web page (Cox: column 5 lines 66 – column 6 line 3: the digital certificate can be incorporated in stored electronic signal).

6. As per claim 3, Bal as modified discloses the method as recited in claim 1. Bal as modified further discloses determining if the web page includes code to invoke a control object; and deriving the digital signature and associating the digital signature with the web page only if the web page includes code to invoke a control object (Bal: column 7 lines 29-51: determined that a control object is present in the web page and then authenticate whether the web site is authorized).

7. As per claim 4, Bal as modified discloses the method as recited in claim 1. Bal as modified further discloses wherein the web page includes a confirmation module that is used by the electronic device to authenticate the digital signature (Cox: column 7 lines 1-21: approve URL; Bal: column 7 lines 41-52).

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8. As per claim 5, Bal as modified discloses the method as recited in claim 1. Bal as modified further discloses wherein the web page contains script that, when executed, invokes executable code that is executed on the electronic device executing the web page (Bal: column 5 lines 41-45: scripts, objects, documents, etc are included in web pages; column 6 lines 2-5: invoke the software object).

9. As per claim 6, Bal as modified discloses the method as recited in claim 1. Bal as modified further discloses the web page is generated in an active server page (ASP) environment (Bal: column 5 lines 8-28: the ActiveX compatible browsers).

10. As per claim 7, Bal discloses a method, comprising: receiving a web page from a server, the web page containing executable script that, when executed, invokes a control object (Bal: column 7 lines 26-51), the web page having URL that can be used to identifies a source of the web page (Bal: column 7 lines 26-51); determining whether the source of the web page is authentic via the URL (Bal: column 7 lines 26-51); and in an event that the source of the web page is authentic, displaying the web page and invoking the control object (Bal: column 7 lines 5-10). Bal does not explicitly disclose associating a digital signature with a web page and authenticating the web page based on the digital signature. However, Cox discloses attaching digital signatures to web contents including web pages are well known in the art (Cox: column 5 lines 7-21 and column 5 line 54 – column 6 line 12). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill to use the URL to determine whether digital signature associated with the web page is secure. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at

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the time of applicant's invention to combine the teachings of Cox within the system of Bal because associating digital signature to document such as web page provides users with certain confidence that it is safe to execute programs invoked by the web pages they are visiting.

11. As per claim 8, Bal as modified discloses the method as recited in claim 7. Bal as modified further discloses in an event that the source of the web page is not authentic, refusing to invoke the control object (Bal: column 7 lines 5-10).

12. As per claim 9, Bal as modified discloses the method as recited in claim 7. Bal as modified further discloses wherein the determining further comprises identifying the source of the web page (Cox: column 7 lines 1-21).

13. As per claim 10, Bal discloses the method as recited in claim 7. Bal as modified further discloses designating one or more authorized sources from which a web page that invokes a control object may be received (Bal: column 6 lines 20-28: use the ICSP-authorized web site); and executing script contained in the web page only if the determining indicates that the web page was received from one of one or more authorized sources (Bal: column 7 lines 5-10).

14. As per claim 17, Bal discloses a system, comprising: a web browser configured to access a web page having a URL (Bal: column 1 line 19 – column 3 line 19); a processor configured to execute script contained in the web page (Bal: column 1 line 19 – column 3 line 19); an executable control object that may be invoked by the script in the web page and is executable on

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the processor (Bal: column 1 line 19 – column 3 line 19); and a confirmation module configured to authenticate the web page to determine based on authenticity of the digital signature, whether the control object should be invoked (Bal: column 1 line 19 – column 3 line 19; column 7 lines 26-51). Bal does not explicitly disclose associating a digital signature with a web page and authenticating the web page based on the digital signature. However, Cox discloses attaching digital signatures to web contents including web pages are well known in the art (Cox: column 5 lines 7-21 and column 5 line 54 – column 6 line 12). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill to use the URL to determine whether digital signature associated with the web page is secure. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to combine the teachings of Cox within the system of Bal because associating digital signature to document such as web page provides users with certain confidence that it is safe to execute programs invoked by the web pages they are visiting.

15. As per claim 18, Bal as modified discloses the system as recited in claim 17. Bal as modified further discloses wherein the confirmation module is called by the control object (Bal: column 6 lines 20-29).

16. As per claim 19, Bal as modified discloses the system as recited in claim 17. Bal as modified further discloses wherein the confirmation module is included in the control object (Bal: column 6 lines 26-29).

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17. As per claim 20, Bal as modified discloses the system as recited in claim 17. Bal as modified further discloses wherein the confirmation module is included in the web browser (Bal: column 6 lines 26-29).

18. As per claim 21, Bal as modified discloses the system as recited in claim 17. Bal further discloses wherein the confirmation module is further configured to determine if the web page comes from a source that is authorized to invoke the control object and the control object is invoked only if the source of the web page is authorized to invoke the control object (Bal: column 7 lines 26-51).

19. As per claim 22, Bal as modified discloses the system as recited in claim 17. Bal as modified further discloses wherein the confirmation module is called by the web page prior to the web page invoking the control object (Bal: column 7 lines 26-51).

20. As per claim 23, Bal as modified discloses the system as recited in claim 17. Bal as modified further discloses wherein the digital signature module is not invoked if the web page does not have a digital signature (Bal: column 7 lines 29-52).

21. As per claim 27, Bal discloses a web browser contained on a computer-readable medium of a client computer, comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the client computer, perform the following: determining if a web page contains instructions to invoke a control object (Bal: column 7 lines 26-51); determining if the web page has an URL; in



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an event that the web page has an URL, authenticating the web page using the URL (Bal: column 1 line 19 – column 3 line 19 and column 7 lines 26-51); and invoking the control object if the source of the web page is authenticated (Bal: column 1 line 19 – column 3 line 19; column 7 lines 5-10). Bal does not explicitly disclose associating a digital signature with a web page and authenticating the web page based on the digital signature. However, Cox discloses attaching digital signatures to web contents including web pages are well known in the art (Cox: column 5 lines 7-21 and column 5 line 54 – column 6 line 12). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill to use the URL to determine whether digital signature associated with the web page is secure. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to combine the teachings of Cox within the system of Bal because associating digital signature to document such as web page provides users with certain confidence that it is safe to execute programs invoked by the web pages they are visiting.

22. As per claim 28, Bal as modified discloses the web browser as recited in claim 27. Bal as modified further discloses the determining if the web page contains executable scripts to invoke a control object (Bal: column 7 lines 26-51); and wherein the authenticating the web page further comprises authenticating the web page only if the web page contains executable script to invoke a control object (Bal: column 7 lines 26-51).

23. As per claim 30, Bal as modified discloses the web browser recited in claim 27. Bal as modified further discloses in an event that the web page does not have an associated digital signature, refusing to invoke the control object (Bal: column 7 lines 42-52; Cox: column 7 lines

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1-21: it is essential to authenticate the signature, if the input parameter for authentication is missing, the authentication procedure has failed).

24. As per claim 31, Bal as modified discloses the web browser as recited in claim 27. Bal as modified further discloses instructions to determine if an authenticated web page comes from a source that is authorized to invoke the control object (Bal: column 7 lines 26-51).

25. As per claim 32, Bal discloses a control object stored in a computer-readable medium, comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed on a computer, perform the following: authenticating a web page that invokes the control object, wherein the authenticating is performed based on the URL of the web page (Bal: column 6 line 13-28); and executing a data-handling task on the computer if the web page is determined to be authentic (Bal: column 7 lines 5-10). Bal does not explicitly disclose associating a digital signature with a web page and authenticating the web page based on the digital signature. However, Cox discloses attaching digital signatures to web contents including web pages are well known in the art (Cox: column 5 lines 7-21 and column 5 line 54 – column 6 line 12). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill to use the URL to determine whether digital signature associated with the web page is secure. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to combine the teachings of Cox within the system of Bal because associating digital signature to document such as web page provides users with certain confidence that it is safe to execute programs invoked by the web pages they are visiting.

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26. As per claim 34, Bal as modified discloses the control object as recited in claim 32. Bal as modified further discloses instructions to determine if a source of the web page is authorized to invoke the data-handling task prior to executing the data-handling task (Bal: column 6 lines 20-29: ICSP authorized web site).

### ***Response to Arguments***

27. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10, 17-23, 27, 28, 30-32, and 34 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shin-Hon Chen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3789. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shin-Hon Chen  
Examiner  
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1/13/06